1. (Amended) An imaging method for combining first raster data and second raster data, comprising the steps of:

receiving at a print drive from at least one raster image processor the first raster data of a first image processed by the at least one raster image processor, the print drive comprising a job control system for receiving, storing, digitally combining, and initiating output of raster data, and a user interface for directing operation of the job control system by a system operator;

receiving the second raster data of a second image processed by [said] the at least one raster image processor;

facilitating selection of the first raster data and the second raster data via the user interface; and

digitally combining by the print drive in response to direction received via the user interface the first raster data and the second raster data to form combined raster data representing a resultant image.

10. (Amended) A print drive for controlling operations in a prepress printing system having at least one raster image processor, the print drive comprising:

a print drive input terminal receiving, from the at least one raster image processor, first raster data of a first image and second raster data of a second image; [and]

a job control system for receiving, storing, digitally combining, and initiating output of raster data; and

a user interface for facilitating direction of the print drive job control system by a system operator;

wherein the job control system comprises a digital image combiner electrically coupled to the print drive input terminal, the digital image combiner in response to direction received via the user interface digitally combining the first raster data and the second raster data to form combined raster data representing a resultant image.

20 (Amended) A [prepress] imaging system for digital doubleburning [or digital masking], comprising:

an image acquisition device for acquiring a first image and a second image;

at least one raster image processor, in electrical communication with the image acquisition device, for processing the first image to create first raster data and for processing the second image to create second raster data; and

a print drive, comprising:

a print drive input terminal receiving, from the at least one raster image processor, first raster data of a first image and second raster data of a second image;

a job control system for receiving, storing, digitally combining, and initiating output of raster data;

a user interface for facilitating direction of the print drive job control system by a system operator;

wherein the job control system comprises a digital image combiner in communication with the print drive input terminal, the digital image combiner in response to direction received via the user interface [in electrical communication with said at least one raster image processor, the print driver] digitally combining the first raster data and the second raster data to form combined raster data representing a resultant image.

Please add the following new claims 27-34:

27. The print drive of claim 14, wherein the print drive output comprises a network interface.

28. A prepress imaging system comprising the print drive of claim 14 and an output device in communication with said print drive output, the output device for imaging the combined raster data.